support surface, each of said discrete surface regions being bound with a species of capture molecules.

3. **(Amended)** The method according to claim 2, wherein said oxidation is performed in an aqueous solution.

5. **(Amended)** The method according to claim 2, wherein the solid support surface has been previously modified by the addition of olefinic groups upon said surface.

6. **(Amended)** The method according to claim 2, wherein the solid support surface is made of a glass layer.

8. **(Amended)** The method according to claim 2, wherein the capture molecules are biological capture molecules.

REMARKS

Claim 1 has been canceled without prejudice and claims 2, 3, 5, 6 and 8 have been amended. Thus, claims 2 to 10 are presented for examination. Specific support for the amendment to claim 2 is discussed below. The following remarks address the substance of the Office Action:

I. Rejection of Claims 1-10 Under 35 U.S.C. § 112, First Paragraph

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-10 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph on the assertion that the claims do not correspond with the written description and figures, specifically within claim 1, step a). Claim 1 has been canceled without prejudice and amended claim 2 at step a) presently recites "...subjecting the surface of a solid support to an oxidation of olefinic groups present on said surface in order to allow the formation of aldehyde functions upon the surface of said solid support..." Support for the term "olefinic groups" within the method of the present invention is found throughout the specification as filed at page 4, line 30 to page 5, line 4; page 6, line 10 to page 7, line 10; within the Examples and within the figures as filed. Thus, the method of claim 2 satisfies the requirements of 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph. In view of the above remarks, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection to claims 1-10.